IN THE CLAIMS

For the Examiner's convenience, all pending claims are included below.

- 1. (Currently Amended) A method of configuring a bid adjustment mechanism in an online auction, the method comprising:
- (a) displaying a bid adjustment mechanism configuration interface that allows a bidder to specify an adjustment for a bid without entering an amount of the bid; and
- (b) setting a bid adjustment value for the bid adjustment mechanism based on input provided by a the adjustment specified by the bidder using the configuration interface, such that when the bid adjustment mechanism is actuated, a bid is adjusted by the bid adjustment value set in the configuration interface.
- 2. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the bid adjustment mechanism is a button on a graphical user interface displayed to the bidder.
- 3. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, wherein setting the bid adjustment value further comprises selecting a bid adjustment type associated with the bid adjustment value, wherein the bid adjustment type corresponds to an absolute value or a percentage of a previous bidder.
- 4. (Original) The method of claim 3, wherein the absolute value is measured in a currency.
 - 5. (Original) The method of claim 4, wherein the currency is U.S. dollars.

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- 6. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 1, wherein the bid adjustment value corresponds to a bid rank.
- 7. (Withdrawn) A method of configuring bid adjustment mechanisms in an online auction, wherein bids are comprised of at least two parameters, and each parameter may be adjusted using a different bid adjustment mechanism, the method comprising:
 - (a) displaying a bid adjustment mechanism configuration interface; and
- (b) setting a bid adjustment value for each of the at least two bid parameters, such that when the bid adjustment mechanism for a given bid parameter is actuated, the given bid parameter is adjusted by the bid adjustment value set for the parameter based on input provided by a bidder using the configuration interface.
- 8. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 7, wherein setting the bid adjustment value further comprises selecting, for each one of the at least two bid parameters, a bid adjustment type associated with the bid adjustment value set for said one bid parameter.
- 9. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 7, wherein the at least two bid parameters include price and quantity.
- 10. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 7, wherein the at least two bid parameters include discount rate and contract length.
- 11. (Currently Amended) A computer-implemented apparatus for configuring a bid adjustment component of an application for submitting bids to an electronic auction, comprising:

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a user-interface that displays bid adjustment mechanism configuration options to a bidder, the configuration options allowing a bidder to specify an adjustment for a bid without entering an amount of the bid;

a processor, coupled to the user-interface that sets a bid adjustment value for the bid adjustment mechanism based on input provided by a the adjustment specified by the bidder;

wherein, upon actuation of the bid adjustment mechanism, a bid is adjusted by the bid adjustment value.

- 12. (Original) The apparatus of claim 11, wherein said bid adjustment component is selected from the group consisting of absolute value, percentage and rank.
- 13. (Withdrawn) A computer-implemented apparatus for configuring at least two bid adjustment components of an application for submitting bids to an electronic auction, wherein each bid adjustment component is adjusted using a different bid adjustment mechanism comprising:

a user-interface that displays bid adjustment mechanism configuration options for each bid adjustment component to a bidder;

a processor, coupled to the user-interface that sets a bid adjustment value for the bid adjustment mechanism for each bid adjustment component based on input provided by a bidder;

wherein, upon actuation of the bid adjustment mechanism for a bid adjustment component, a bid is adjusted by the bid adjustment value for said bid adjustment component.

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- 14. (Withdrawn) The apparatus of claim 13, wherein the at least two bid adjustment components include price and quantity.
- 15. (Currently Amended) A computer readable medium comprising executable instructions which when executed on a processing system cause said processing system to perform a method of configuring a bid adjustment mechanism in an online auction, the method comprising:
- (a) displaying a bid adjustment mechanism configuration interface that allows a bidder to specify an adjustment for a bid without entering an amount of the bid; and
- (b) setting a bid adjustment value for the bid adjustment mechanism based on input provided by a the adjustment specified by the bidder using the configuration interface, such that when the bid adjustment mechanism is actuated, a bid is adjusted by the bid adjustment value set in the configuration interface.
- 16. (Withdrawn) A computer readable medium comprising executable instructions which when executed on a processing system cause said processing system to perform a method of configuring a bid adjustment mechanism in an online auction, the method comprising:
 - (a) displaying a bid adjustment mechanism configuration interface; and
- (b) setting a bid adjustment value for each of the at least two bid parameters, we such that when the bid adjustment mechanism for a given bid parameter is actuated, the given bid parameter is adjusted by the bid adjustment value set for the parameter based on input provided by a bidder using the configuration interface.